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## News Release

# "Local Foods for Local Eating" Presentation at the U of M Crookston on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 5

*By Itollefts on Tuesday, March 4, 2014* The fourth gardening and local foods seminar is scheduled for Thursday, March 13, at 6 p.m. in Bede Ballroom at the University of Minnesota Crookston following a free supper at 5:30 p.m. Jennifer Dillard, lab services coordinator at the U of M Crookston is the organizer. Speakers include: Ronny J Reitmeier, owner of "Ronny's Farm To Table" in Crookston; Jessica Luckow, owner of Whitetail Gardens, a local CSA provider; Brigette Burzette-DeLeon, a teacher at Washington Elementary School and school garden coordinator; and Anna Ogaard, Crookston Public School's director of food service. Suppers in dining services are free but reservations are required. Attendees are requested to go through the Brown Dining Hall at 5:30 and then bring their meal down the hall to the Bede Ballroom. The program will commence at 6 p.m. and conclude around 7:10.

For reservations, call or email Tashi Gurung or Megan Luxford at 218-281-8128 or [gurun011@umn.edu](mailto:gurun011@umn.edu) or [luxfo003@crk.umn.edu](mailto:luxfo003@crk.umn.edu). For more information contact Dan Svedarsky at 218-281-8129 or [dsvedars@crk.umn.edu](mailto:dsvedars@crk.umn.edu).

### Background

This presentation is a continuing supper seminar series scheduled for the spring semester at UMC to explore and inform aspects of gardening and local food production in the Crookston community and the Crookston campus. The programs are supported by a Mini-Grant from the U of MN's Institute on the Environment to UMC's Center for Sustainability and are free and open to all interested in the topic.

The kick-off of the seminar series occurred January 23 and featured Noelle Hardin, a U of M Extension Educator whose focus is Community Food Systems in northwest Minnesota. Hardin explored the many values of local foods and over 35 participants from the community and campus shared their experiences. The second speaker was Dr. Randel Hanson, environmental scientist and manager of the Campus Garden at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. The third program was presented by Kirsten Fagerlund and Stannon Stassen who outlined values and possibilities in the city of Crookston.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 20 minors, and 36 concentrations on campus--as well as 13 degrees online--in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from more than 20 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit [www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu).

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